The true teachers are those who help us think for ourselves

— Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
MESSAGE from MISSION DIRECTOR
It gives me immense pleasure to dedicate this book to all Atal Tinkering Lab InCharges across the country. It also gives me great pride to recognize the ‘Exemplary ATL Teachers of Change’ as a token of appreciation and encouragement for the extraordinary role some of them have played in the success of Atal Innovation Mission’s Atal Tinkering Lab initiatives.

Dear ATL InCharges - I want to thank you all for your wonderful commitment to nation building. You are guiding and shaping young budding innovators on how to leverage the ATL labs to stimulate a problem solving innovative mindset. More importantly you are helping them realise their creativity and innovation potential creating potential job creators of the future.

‘Exemplary ATL Teachers of Change’ - Thank you for demonstrating efficiently on how to utilize and operate these ATL labs efficiently in an outcome oriented manner. You are also creating and identifying a sea of innovative talent for architecting the future destiny of our nation.

Your efforts in leveraging the ATL labs to ensure the desired outcomes as per Atal Innovation Mission’s vision is both marvelous and inspiring. The extra miles that you have walked with us in the AIM innovation journey encourage the young minds to make use of Atal Tinkering Labs properly. Without you, the success of Atal Tinkering Lab initiatives is not possible.

I extend my heartiest congratulations to our first set of Exemplary ATL Teachers of Change who have been recognised through this book. I am sure your continued dedication and efforts will inspire many other potential ATL Exemplary Teachers of Change to build a new innovative India.

Inspire, Innovate as the agents of Change that our nation so urgently needs.

R Ramanan
Mission Director Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog
PREFACE
from PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Our former Prime Minister late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji believed that the future of this country lies in the hands of youth and the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), named after his legacy, is an effort towards translating his dreams into reality.

AIM is a flagship initiative set up by NITI Aayog to promote innovation and entrepreneurship across the length and breadth of the country. At the school level, AIM is setting up state of the art Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) in schools across all districts across the country. It is systematically honing young students on crucial 21 century skills including Creativity, Innovation, Critical Thinking, Social and Cross-Cultural Collaboration, Ethical Leadership and so on.

Since the birth of ATL, and over the years, I have witnessed an exemplary display of creativity and problem-solving skills from the young minds of our country. This evolution of thinking has always been supported by a strong guiding force found within the ATL in-charges. The ATL in-charges play the role of mentors for the students in their path of creativity, discovery and innovation.

‘The ATL Exemplary Teachers of Change’ book is our way of recognizing the ATL in-charges who have done outstanding work for their students, the community and the ATL itself, consistently over a period of time. The book is an attempt to celebrate their hard work and dedication and to inspire others to persistently pursue the path of inculcating an innovative mindset amongst India’s youth.

I along with my team at AIM, NITI Aayog, applaud & congratulate the ATL Exemplary Teachers of Change and urge them to continue inspiring teachers and guiding students.

Dr. Ayesha Chaudhary
Program Director, Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog
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The Atal Innovation Mission

Objective of the Mission

AIM, NITI Aayog is envisaged as an umbrella innovation organization that would play an instrumental role in alignment of innovation policies between central, state and sectoral ministries, by incentivizing the promotion of an ecosystem of innovation and entrepreneurship at various levels - higher secondary schools, higher educational and research institutions, and SME/MSME industry, corporate, and government ministerial level, by public-private partnership.

The Atal Tinkering Labs

As we have learned, you can mandate adequacy, but you cannot mandate greatness: it has to be unleashed.

- Joel Klein, Vice-Chair of the Global Agenda Council on Education

We are at the cusp of a Fourth Industrial Revolution and the need for inculcating an innovative mindset within our youth is of paramount importance.

Combining the traditional teaching methodologies with today’s experiential learning will be the key towards creating a unique blended education system in India. Keeping in mind the demands of the growing economy and global
growth in innovation development, the Government of India, embarked on a noble mission to create an ecosystem that nurtures futuristic skills like complex problem solving, critical thinking, adaptive learning, computational skills in children, with a vision to create one million neoteric innovators, with the ATL initiative.

ATL is encouraging students and teachers to experiment, explore and follow a self-learning path, thereby empowering them to think differently about problems and develop innovative solutions, by leveraging latest technology tools including 3D printing, Internet of Things, robotics, miniaturized electronics, space technology, drone technology, technology inspired textiles and so on. ATL is also providing other sections of the community including parents, mentors and other individuals interested in innovation to give life to their ideas. Through frequent community sessions, ATL is shaping an ecosystem wherein every individual can contribute towards finding solutions to day-to-day problems of the society and the country, henceforth creating a strong essence of national service.

Under the ATL scheme, grant-in-aid of up to Rs. 20 lakh is provided to schools selected for setting up ATL. The grant must be spent exclusively for the specified purpose within the stipulated time of a maximum period of 5 years, with Rs.10 lakh for capital expense and remaining Rs.10 lakh for operational and maintenance expenses.

As of January 2020, more than 5,000 ATLs have been established, covering 90% of all the districts and 108 Aspirational Districts of India. These labs, established in both govt. and private schools and majority in co-educational and girls’ schools, are serving as community hubs of innovation, while transforming the way India learns, thinks, ideates and innovates. As per the Strategy for New India published by NITI Aayog, AIM, NITI Aayog shall establish over 10,000 ATLs by end of calendar year 2020.
Why did we start the movement of ATL Exemplary Teachers of Change (EToC)?

ATL In-charges are the backbone that is driving the ATL initiative forward in their school and local community. They are the unsung heroes who deserve every bit of appreciation and encouragement from their students, the school and most importantly the ATL, AIM team at NITI Aayog.

It is for this reason that the AIM team has initiated a recognition platform for exemplary teachers across ATLs in India. These outstanding ATL in-charges will henceforth be called ‘ATL Exemplary Teachers of Change’.
**Process of identifying ATL EToC**

In the first announcement made in March 2020, 45 EToC were selected from 34 States and UTs. The primary criteria for their selection was the continuous engagement with ATL as shared via the MyATL Dashboard.

MyATL Dashboard is the online platform for schools to indicate their ATL activity, achievements, student participation, innovations created, events conducted and challenges participated.

The team monitored the schools that were regularly updating their Dashboards and announced a monthly list of Top ATLS of the month. The Teachers of Change are those ATL in-charges who have consistently ranked their schools among the Top ATLS of the month for six continuous months.*

Filling of monthly reports on MyATL Dashboard is mandatory as it is the primary way for ATL team to understand the success and performance of a particular ATL.

(Links to ATL Dashboard - https://aim.gov.in/atl/)

To guide you in filling monthly reports on MyATL Dashboard, we have prepared a step by step video for your assistance:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7VqU-HJwJ2w&feature=youtu.be

Further details related to MyATL Dashboard can be downloaded below)

Role of ATL EToCs

- The EToCs first and foremost should continue their work as ATL in-charge with the same zeal and enthusiasm.
- Guide and motivate other in-charge by sharing your ATL experiences and best-practices.
- EToCs should become ambassadors for the ATLs challenges, innovation events and encourage participation from their region’s ATLs.
- Post at least one write-up/blog/video on Wall of Fame or on social media by tagging the official AIM handle every month sharing best-practices, technical knowledge and experiences.

*Some states had no school that was consistently ranked as the top ATL for 6 months, hence schools were selected on the basis of the maximum number of times it was ranked at top ATL of the month and in case of a tie, all the ties schools were selected.*
Introducing our first 45 ATL Exemplary Teachers of Change! Let us know more about their lives, interesting stories from ATLs, what motivates them and what they would like to say to all the other ATL in-charges in India to inspire them.
I request all the ATL in-charges of various schools across the country to bestow your skills and potential for fostering curiosity and innovation among the students.
ANIKET GAUTAM

School
British Fort Foundation school
Jabalpur M.P.

ATL UID
13602903

City
Jabalpur

State
Madhya Pradesh

It is a world of high technology and sensors where imaginations become reality. I have made one ATL group of the most motivated students which not only encourages other students to take ATL classes seriously and also keeping them motivated.

ARABINDA PATRA

School
DAV Public School, Koylanagar, Dhanbad

ATL UID
10063286

City
Dhanbad

State
Jharkhand

I think ATL is the corner of innovation where students can show their potential. I would say that we as ATL In-charges should come up with creative ideas to improve or make something new, analyse complex data in order to draw clear and simple conclusions. Let's make our young minds ideate, innovate and create.
ASHUTOSH UPADHYAY

My motivation for ATL is ‘Change the world with new ideas’. The interaction with students at the ATL especially the nearby tribal students who have some amazing ideas of indigenous innovations drives and motivates me to continue this journey.

BESO LENSO CHANG

ATL is the future of our young generation to think, ideated, design and innovate for New India.
BIKASH GURUNG

As ATL in-charges, I think we will have a crucial role to play. Tinkering with new ideas and implementing them is a key reflection of a good inventor which we can nurture our students to become in the future.

CHINNASAMY S

As the ATL In-charge I see my students many of them have a creative mind and a keen interest in the ATL lab activities, so am always giving more real time projects. I would urge all the ATL in-charges that we all join together to Motivate our young generation and inspire them to meet the global challenges that we as a society face.
Let us unite to make our country a hub of technology with the help of new ideas and innovations.

Let us unite to make our country a hub of technology with the help of new ideas and innovations.
GANDU RAVI

As ATL in-charges we should work towards enabling our country to reach its goals through young minds.

FARAZUL HASAN

For me ATL stands for novelty. A desire to learn myself and make my students learn innovative solutions motivates me the most. To all the ATL In-charges I would say keep on soaring high with new ideas and value each and every student's curiosity and idea.
GYAN RAJ
School
Dr B R Ambedkar Memorial High School
State
Jharkhand
City
Ranchi
ATL UID
22967181

For me ATL is that tool which has the capability to make India world leader. The dreams which I see in the eyes of my students inspires me to be an exemplary ATL In-Charge. ATL is the future and we all have to work in co-operation to make it a reality. Providing better resources and more opportunities to the rural and tribal area students should be our priority because because they have the capability to change the world.

GAURAV KUMAR
School
Sandhya Modern High School
State
Bihar
City
Gaya
ATL UID
E6445797

ATL is combination of concept, knowledge, understanding and ideation for everyone. A place which motivates one to do better forever. As the ATL In-charge I ensure to follow the guidelines provided by AIM and solving the problems of the community and also engage the community students because these students are looking for opportunities and coming up with better and innovative solutions.
HITESH DAKHARA

ATL is such a great platform in our schools. It helps in channelising creativity among students in the right direction.

HARI BABU MANDAPAKA

ATL instils a maker spirit in young people by using the latest technologies. It is the best platform to bring the do-it-yourself culture among students. As an ATL In-charge I encourage and motivate students to become solution providers and get engaged in self learning.
INDER SINGH THAKUR

The curiosity of learning new technology and the hope of the students always inspires me. And I urge all in-charges to expand the scope of ATL to invite more and more community students to innovate their ideas within ATL.

JOSE P L

ATL is a great opportunity for teachers and mentors to help and guide students to bring their innovations to life.
KOMAL DHINGRA

We’re lucky to have a great platform like ATL which broadens the horizon of everyone involved. I remember when a notorious child of Class 8, who wasn’t interested in studies at all was brought to ATL and got so involved in tinkering that he not only did wonderfully well in ATL but also his behaviour and academics improved. His parents are always so thankful and appreciative to school.

KANGABAM HEROJ IT SINGH

The curiosity of young minds, their hard work, patience & empathy is what inspires me to continuously improve as an ATL in-charge.
MANOJ KUMAR ROY

To all ATL in-charges, I would request you to be the medium for the advancement of students as it is an opportunity to prepare future scientists in India.

MADHAVI GOSWAMI

My passion is to foster innovation culture among students. I want to say to all fellow ATL in-charges - We all are a team! Let’s collaborate and learn from each other.
MANAS RANJAN SATPATHY

As a ATL in-charge, I teach the students about the equipment and let them explore it themselves as I believe the teacher is a source of inspiration and a guide.

MANJ UNATH SAHUHAR

ATL is providing an opportunity to learn and share the Knowledge. We as in-charge who have the knowledge at our doorstep need to pass it on to our students and inspire them to become future scientists of our country.
MRINAL DAS

As an ATL In-charge I always motivate all the students for their goal. When I have free time available with me, I always ensure to spend the time along with the students.

DR. MEENAKSHI JINDAL

ATL I work to inspire the students to innovate and most time in-turn I get inspired by them. To all ATL in-charges out there, work with passion for your ATL to nurture a generation of innovative thinkers.
NAREN KULI

The student’s interest in STEM and their innovative thinking for creating and building encourages me to engage in the ATL lab. Including ATL in the school curriculum is a crucial step that we should all together strive for.

NARENDRA SINGH RAWAT

ATL is celebrating Innovation by realising Ideas into reality. The enthusiasm and curiosity in students and their zest to work hands on to create high tech solutions inspires me every day.
NAVEEN KUMAR

ATL is a place to bring ideas into reality and the more you will tinker, the more you will learn.

N SURENDRA REDDY

ATL is a wonderful platform to improve student innovations at school level. The response we are getting from our students to learn new technologies to help society is tremendous. One of the regular practices that I follow as an ATL In-charge is an interaction with our students about innovative ideas, each week and guiding them to provide and achieve more for the country.
PARTHA CHATTERJEE

ATL is a place to inculcate the productivity of young mind of our innovative youth. The community work with all the ATL and non-ATL schools on a regular basis is a satisfying experience. The objective is to think beyond the box and empower the nation.

PATIL SATISH EKNATH

ATL is an innovative platform for our rural students and we as teachers need to use this platform to provide them the opportunities to show their talent and ability.
PRINCE SHARMA

School
Model Academy
ATL UID
e28c6029
City
Jammu
State
Jammu and Kashmir

ATL is a Perfect platform to convert ideas into reality where learning never ends. Let’s join hand and do something for the betterment of society.

P. CHANDRALEKHA

Be persistent and continue tinkering!
R JAMUNA

ATL is a means to bring forth the hidden skills within students and with our hard work and dedication we can successfully create a good society.

ROHIT NISHANT TOPPO

ATL is a lab to create innovative ideas for students and teachers. The different projects, programmes and facilities provided by ATL inspires me. Let us all guide the ideas of the students in the right direction and make our country proud.
SHEHNAZ KHAN

ATL is the most essential platform for me to drive my passion to serve the community, to learn more and grow by being amongst young innovators. I keep myself open to the ideas of my students for I believe however illogical the idea seems to be, we can improve it when we start sharing and ideating together.

SHIVANI VARUN PRABHUDESSAI

As an ATL In-charge, the curiosity of the students and urge for more knowledge motivates me to continue the mentoring and guiding the students. ATL should not be just like any other monotonous class, it should be a place where they work with their ideas, learn new things and share the knowledge with other inspiring students.
SHIVKANT VERMA

The passion towards technology and keep updating my self with the latest technologies is my inclination to be a part of the ATL community. I encourage the kids to ‘Do it yourself.’ Give students direction and let them do it on their own as much as they can. They will learn how to deal with problems and how to solve them.

SHIVAM RANA

ATL for me is a place where imagination meets creativity
VEPOCUYI RUHO

Our responsibility as an ATL incharge is to let the creativity flow free and let the students decide what they want to create and innovative for that freedom of imagination is the best practice.

V. JOSEPH LIANLUTA

ATL for me is the best space where students can Think, Make, Try and Refine as they are the future of the country. I have a simple message for all of us, “Alone we can’t shape the future of students; together we can shape it.”
VIVEKA NAND JHA

School
Govt Higher Secondary School
Rupa

ATL UID
32397479

City
Rupa (West Kameng)

State
Arunachal Pradesh

The world is very competitive in the field of science and technology and every ATL Incharge should discharge his duty very honestly to make our future. Initially when the ATL was completely a new concept for me, I was very confused and stressed. But with time I realised that my duty is simply to ignite innocent and intelligent minds of these students and then I shall be able fulfill the purpose of ATL in my school and ultimately for the nation.

VITTHAL ARGADE

ATL for me is the place where student’s innovation takes birth. It gives me a chance to help and guide students to bring their innovative ideas/projects to life. I would like to say that, we as ATL In-charges have a responsibility and a golden opportunity to motivate and guide students towards new era of technology.
According to me, ATL is a place “of the learner, by the learner and for the learner.” As part of the ATL In-charge community, I would say to my fellow mates that we all are doing very well and putting efforts for our students. We should keep on putting our best efforts so that new ideas and experience can be combined to achieve greater heights.